

January 2017

CE NEWS

*Happy
New Year* ★★

Alaska State Library Continuing Education Newsletter

Welcome 2017!

It has been mentioned in the news that the word most commonly associated with 2016 is “*surreal*.” The word staff at the Alaska State Library most associate with 2016 is “*change*.” While the pace of change in 2017 may not be as accelerated or abrupt as last year, all libraries in Alaska will continue to be impacted by the State budget crisis. One way to prepare for whatever changes lie ahead is to invest in **your own** professional skills and knowledge.

A quick review of Continuing Education in 2016

The Alaska State Library is committed to providing CE for librarians in a variety of formats. In 2016, we sponsored face-to-face [Lead the Change](#) workshops in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau. We offered a **School Public Combined Library** boot camp in Fairbanks, which included an optional online instructional component. We purchased Infopeople course seats so librarians could select relevant library courses and study from home, work or wherever. At last count, ninety-eight librarians have taken advantage of the Infopeople course seat opportunity. We also hosted 9 Public Librarians’ Chats on a variety of library topics. A huge **THANK YOU** to the guest webinar presenters who generously shared their knowledge, expertise and made these webinars possible. If you missed a Public Librarians’ chat, they are recorded (when possible) and posted to the [Archived Webinars for Librarians](#) webpage.

A full year of CE opportunities planned for 2017

Alaska State Library staff are continually looking to expand CE opportunities for librarians. In 2017, we will be offering 5 Public Librarians’ Chats on topics ranging from the upcoming AkLA Conference to developing conduct policies. We will also be hosting 3 video conferences specifically for library staff overseeing summer reading programs. During the week of May 8th, **Using Data to Tell Your Library’s Story** workshops will be offered in Juneau, Anchorage and Fairbanks. We will also be offering a 5-week online course on Strategic Staff Development. Information about all of these CE events is available from the [Library Development Training & Continuing Education Calendar](#). We have also compiled links to training programs, webcasts and self-paced online tutorials on the [Professional Development Resources for Public Librarians](#) library guide.

In February, we hope to see you during the [AkLA Conference in Ketchikan](#), the Alaska State Library is sponsoring a [Project Outcome Preconference](#) and staff will be leading several conference sessions.

The Alaska State Library offers each main library, each branch library and each bookmobile in a public library system one [CE grant](#) per fiscal year, which may be used for in-state or out-of-state travel.

Happy New Year!